

Long Term Care Coordinating Council

Regular Meeting

June 8, 2011

10:00 am

RI Council of Community Mental Health Organizations

40 Sharpe Drive, Suite 3

Cranston, RI

AGENDA

Attendance:

Lt. Governor Elizabeth Roberts

Virginia Burke

Jodi Bourque

Cynthia Conant-Arp

Kathleen Kelly

Ray Rusin

Rick Baccus

Kathleen Heren

Maureen Glynn

Terry Rochon

Rebecca Martish

Jim Nyberg

Marie O’Loughlin Jenkins

Bonnie Larson

Karen Amado

Cathy Cranston

Ellen Mauro

Holly Garvey

Paula Parker

Maureen Maigret

Craig Stenning

Deanna Casey

Elizabeth Earls

Lori Rossi

Stacy Paterno

Cara Sammartino

Aubrey Manning

Jennifer McElroy

Diana Franchitto

Jonathan Plante

Amanda Sorenson

David Mullen

Emmanuel Falck

1. Call to Order

Meeting Called to Order at 10:05am by Chairwoman Lt. Governor Elizabeth Roberts.

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the May meeting approved unanimously.

3. Nursing Home Deficiency Report – Ray Rusin, Department of Health

a. The State conducted ten nursing home surveys in May.

i. 4 surveys were deficiency free.

ii. There were no findings of substandard quality of care.

4. Nursing Home Complaint Data Report

a. The chair introduced Ray Rusin from the Department of Health who discussed nursing home complaints. A data report was generated based on residential and non-residential nursing home complaints. Mr. Rusin stated that consumer complaints facility generated reports are a majority of complaints, and that family members usually also file complaints.

b. Mr. Rusin stated that the percentage of complaints that are investigated and subsequently substantiated is running low this year and that the average for substantiated complaints is usually between 10 and 14%.

c. Mr. Rusin stated that each service line has a different definition of “incident” and what needs to be investigated based on statutory and regulatory structure.

d. Process of a complaint

i. The complaint is received by the Department.

- ii. Compliant report is generated for review to determine if the complaint needs on-the-ground investigation.
- iii. If needed, an investigator from the Department will investigate the complaint.
- iv. The investigation will then dismiss the complaint, or cite the facility for an incident.
- e. Mr. Rusin stated that the number of pending investigation has increased, due to staffing decreases at the department. He also stated that assisted living complaint reports have increased. Finally, Mr. Rusin stated that the longer it takes to investigate, the more likely it is for evidence to no longer be found frustration exists over the length of time between complaints and investigations because symptoms to investigate may disappear over time.

5. End of Life Care Coalition

- a. The chair recognized Maureen Glynn of the Rhode Island End of Life Care Coalition. Then Attorney General Sheldon Whitehouse created End of life Care Task Force to formalize end of life documents and contracts. The goal was to ensure end of life wishes are granted. The task force succeeded as legislation was passed that simplified the power of attorney process created a standard nursing home end of life form and contract. The task force continued working on end of life issues as part of the Department of Attorney General through the next ten years. This year, Attorney General Kilmartin ended the End

of Life Task Force as a project of the department.

Members of the End of Life Task Force decided to continue the work of the task force and created an End of Life Coalition. The Coalition is now based at the Rhode Island State Nurses Association. The Coalition functions under tow guiding principles:

- 1. Believes in providing quality heath care.**
- 2. End of life care is one component of quality health care.**

The major project of the coalition continues to be End of Life forms and contracts are final legal documents. Currently, the coalition is working on a Physician Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment (POLST). A POLST form will allow physician orders to follow a patient between providers and care settings.

6. Legislation

a. The chair recognized Dan Meuse from the Office of Lt. Governor to discussed legislation of interest to the council. Mr. Meuse discussed Certificate of Need changes, dementia definitions, licensing of personal care attendants, and the state budget. Other council members also discussed legislation including a bill regarding home modification resources. A representative of the Attorney General also spoke about the Long Term Care Background Check legislation.

7. New Business

a. Council members discussed the fact that elderly abuse and

financial exploitation do not cause automatic criminal prosecutions without family members seeking charges.

i. It may be necessary to provide eldercare training for law enforcement and attorney general personnel.

ii. Law may also need to be changed.

b. Office of Lt. Governor will be conducting a review of Long Term Care Coordinating Council appointed members.

8. Public Comment

a. No Public Comment

9. Adjourn

a. Meeting adjourned at 11:48am